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**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: 021182-000410US  
Client Ref. No.: 00945

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: /Aaron Hokamura/

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Joseph M. AHEARN et al.

Application No.: 10/552,177

Filed: April 16, 2004

For: IDENTIFICATION AND  
MONITORING OF SYSTEMIC LUPUS  
ERYTHEMATOSUS (as amended)

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 6534

Examiner:

Technology Center/Art Unit:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.